

Removal of King's College Hospital to South London.

Patron of the Hospital:

HIS MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY THE KING.

President of the Hospital:

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, K.G.

Joint Committee:

Appointed by the Council of King's College and the Committee of Management of the Hospital, and authorised by the Governors to carry out the removal.

Chairman: The Hon. W. F. D. SMITH, M.P.

His Grace The DUKE OF SUTHERLAND, K.G.

The Right Hon. and Right Rev. The LORD BISHOP
OF ROCHESTER.

Lieut.-General LORD METHUEN.

Sir J. COCKBURN, K.C.M.G.

The Hon. R. C. PARSONS.

The Rev. Dr. HEADLAM (*Principal of King's
College*).

C. GODDARD CLARKE, Esq., J.P., (*Mayor of
Camberwell*).

CHARLES AWDRY, Esq.

J. ADDISON, Esq.

S. BAER, Esq.

T. BUZZARD, Esq., M.D.

R. CRAWFURD, Esq., M.D.

Lieut.-Col. FELLOWS.

G. L. HAWKER, Esq.

W. ENGLISH-HARRISON, Esq., K.C.

E. NASH, Esq.

E. MICHOLLS, Esq. J.P.

T. J. MACNAMARA, Esq., M.P.

Professor M. M. McHARDY, F.R.C.S.

C. W. TAGG, Esq.

J. WILLSON, Esq.

KING'S COLLEGE,

STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

November, 1903.

DEAR SIR (OR MADAM),

At a Meeting of the Governors, held on October 12th last, it was decided to remove King's College Hospital from its present position in Portugal Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, to a site in South London.

For some time past the necessity of the removal of one or more of the Hospitals at present collected within a comparatively small part of Central London, has been strongly urged upon the authorities of the various Hospitals concerned. The decision to remove King's College Hospital, it need scarcely be said, has not been arrived at without the most

careful consideration. For upwards of a year it formed the subject of enquiry of various Committees appointed expressly for this purpose, and the following were among the principal reasons which led to the present decision :—

1. The condition of the existing building, which, as declared by those best qualified to judge, is not only obsolete in design and inadequate in accommodation, but owing to the limited area of its site, and the method of construction, is incapable of such adequate extension or remodelling as would bring it up to the standard of requirements demanded for a modern hospital.
2. The removal of the larger number of the poorer inhabitants of the neighbourhood, to other and distant parts of London, caused by the clearances in connection with the construction of the new highways, from the Strand to Holborn.
3. The circumstance that the City of Westminster is rich in Hospitals, and has recently been further enriched by the enlargement of Charing Cross Hospital, while London as a whole, and particularly South London, is woefully deficient in the provision that is made for its sick poor.

In the short period of the 60 years of its existence, King's College Hospital has accomplished a great work in the relief of the sick and suffering poor. It has also given many famous men to the service of medicine. Among these are conspicuous in recent times, Dr. Todd, Dr. Budd, Sir William Bowman, Sir William Priestley, Sir Alfred Garrod and Sir William Fergusson, the most renowned operator of his generation. Here the late Sir George Johnson carried out the researches that laid the foundations of our present knowledge of renal disease, and Lord Lister gained acceptance for the antiseptic methods that have revolutionised modern surgery.

By its transference from a district in which it has become not so greatly required, to one in which there is a dense population urgently in need of its many advantages, not only will the Hospital be enabled to increase and develop its usefulness, but by its removal the great need of South London will be met, without adding to the number of existing hospitals, most of which already have difficulty in meeting their necessary expenditure.

In sanctioning the removal, the Governors of the Hospital authorised the Joint Committee to act for them in all matters appertaining to such removal.

The Committee in accepting this task, fully recognise the great responsibility of the trust they have taken upon themselves. But they feel that the removal is in the interests both of the Charity itself and of the poor for whose benefit it is intended, and they are confident that the scheme will meet with the support of the public at large as it has met with the sympathy and approval of the entire Press.

An adequate site has been presented, close to Camberwell Green, on which it is proposed to build the Hospital with every necessary accommodation, and in accordance with all the highest requirements of modern science and hygiene.

To carry out the scheme of removal and to build and equip the Hospital, a sum of not less than

£300,000 is needed.

And the Committee earnestly appeal for this sum.

As patients from all parts of Great Britain are constantly under treatment, both at the Hospital and at its Convalescent Home, and as many such will continue to be received after the removal to South London, King's College Hospital may fairly claim to be a National Charity, and the Committee therefore appeal not only to residents in London, but to all generous benefactors throughout the country.

W. F. D. SMITH,

*Chairman, Joint Committee
Removal of King's College Hospital.*

METHUEN, LIEUT.-GENERAL,
Chairman, King's College Hospital.

CHARLES AWDRY,
Treasurer

Donations (which may be spread over three years) will be thankfully received by Charles Awdry, Esq., 2, Hyde Park Street, W.; by Lloyds Bank, Limited, Law Courts Branch, 222, Strand, W.C., Bankers to the Hospital; and at King's College, Strand, W.C., by A. MacLeod Forest, Esq., Secretary, King's College Hospital Removal Fund.

All communications should be addressed to the Secretary, King's College Hospital Removal Fund, at King's College, Strand, W.C., who will be glad to furnish further information.

